

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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TOMAREY PATTERSON,

Plaintiff,

v.

JAMES G. COX et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:15-cv-02006-RFB-PAL

**ORDER**

This action is a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by a state prisoner. On August 17, 2016, the Court issued an order dismissing the complaint with leave to amend and directed Plaintiff to file an amended complaint within thirty days. (ECF No. 5 at 9). The thirty-day period has now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed an amended complaint or otherwise responded to the Court's order. District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and "[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal" of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court

1 apprised of address); *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987)  
2 (dismissal for failure to comply with court order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421,  
3 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (dismissal for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local  
4 rules).

5 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey  
6 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors:  
7 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to  
8 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring  
9 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.  
10 *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 130;  
11 *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

12 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in  
13 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket,  
14 weigh in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs  
15 in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of  
16 unreasonable delay in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See  
17 *Anderson v. Air West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor – public policy  
18 favoring disposition of cases on their merits – is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor  
19 of dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey  
20 the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"  
21 requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779  
22 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file an amended complaint within  
23 thirty days expressly stated: "It is further ordered that if Plaintiff fails to file an amended  
24 complaint curing the deficiencies outlined in this order, this action shall be dismissed with  
25 prejudice for failure to state a claim." (ECF No. 5 at 9). Thus, Plaintiff had adequate  
26 warning that dismissal would result from his noncompliance with the Court's order to file  
27 an amended complaint within thirty days.

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1           **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that this action is dismissed without prejudice  
2 based on Plaintiff's failure to file an amended complaint in compliance with this Court's  
3 August 17, 2016, order and for failure to state a claim.

4           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* (ECF  
5 No. 4) is denied as moot.

6           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment  
7 accordingly.

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9           **DATED** this 16th day of November 2016.



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**RICHARD F. BOULWARE II**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**